

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer system for providing dynamic network addresses for devices associated with users, the method comprising:

receiving a DNS request from a client to translate a domain name into a network address for communicating with a device;

determining a user identifier associated with the received domain name;

sending to a dynamic address system the determined user identifier, the dynamic address system having a mapping from user identifiers to network addresses, each user identifier associated with a user, wherein the dynamic address system periodically receives an update for each user that comprises a current network address of a device through which the user is accessible and wherein upon receiving the update, the dynamic address system associates the received current network address with the user identifier associated with the user;

receiving from the dynamic address system the current network address associated with the determined user identifier; and

sending the received current network address to the client in response to the request to translate the domain name, such that the client receives the current network address associated with the user by sending a single DNS request to the computer system.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the dynamic address system supports instant messaging and the user identifier identifies a user of the instant messaging system.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the device is connected to the Internet.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the device is a web server.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the network address is an IP address.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the computer system is a domain name server.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the domain name server is a top-level domain name server.
8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the domain name server is a second-level domain name server.
9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the sending of the received network address includes sending an indication not to cache the received network address.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the sending of the received address including sending an indication to cache the received network address for a certain amount of time.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 including sending to the dynamic address system authentication information along with the determined user identifier so that the dynamic address system can authenticate the computer system.

12. (Currently Amended) A method in a computer system for mapping domain names to network addresses, the method comprising:

providing to a domain name server a domain name mapping of domain names to intermediate identifiers;

receiving from the domain name server an intermediate identifier obtained based on the provided domain name mapping in response to a request from a client to translate a domain name to a network address;

identifying, from an address mapping of intermediate identifiers to network addresses that is accessed by the computer system and is not provided to the domain name server, a network address associated with the received intermediate identifier; and

sending to the domain name server the identified network address as the address of the received intermediate identifier, such that the domain name server can respond to the client and the client receives the network address by sending a single DNS request to the computer system.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the intermediate identifier is a telephone number.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13 wherein the address mapping maps telephone numbers to addresses of servers having a location such that a call to the telephone number from the location is a local call.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the telephone number is part of the domain name.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein a second-level domain name is a telephone number.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein a third-level domain name is a telephone number.

18. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the telephone number is a parameter of a uniform resource identifier that includes the domain name.

19. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the intermediate identifier is a dynamic address name.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the intermediate identifier is a name associated with a user of an instant messaging system.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the address mapping is providing by a dynamic address system.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 wherein the dynamic address system is an instant messaging system.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a computer system to provide dynamic addresses for devices, by a method comprising:

providing to a domain name server that is external to the computer system a dynamic name mapping from device identifiers to dynamic address names;
receiving from the domain name server a dynamic address name associated with a device obtained based on the provided dynamic name mapping;
identifying from an address mapping of dynamic address names to network addresses that is accessed by the computer system and is not provided to the domain name server, a network address associated with the received dynamic address name; and

sending to the domain name server the identified network address,
so that the domain name server can provide the identified network address as an
address associated with the device to a client and the client receives the
identified network address associated with the name by sending a single
DNS request to the computer system.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the device identifier is a domain name and the domain name server maps domain names to dynamic address names.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the device is connected to the Internet.

26. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the device is a web server.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the computer system is an instant messaging system.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 including receiving a new network address for a dynamic address name and updating the address mapping to map the dynamic address name to the new network address.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the network addresses are IP addresses.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the domain name server is a top-level domain name server.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the domain name server is a second-level domain name server.

32. (Currently Amended) A domain name system for providing dynamic addresses for resources, comprising:

- a process domain name component configured to receive a uniform resource identifier having a parameter that identifies a resource;
- a dynamic address name table component configured to identify a dynamic address name associated with the parameter;
- a dynamic address system communication component configured to send to a dynamic address system that is external to the domain name system the identified dynamic address name, the dynamic address system having a mapping from dynamic address names to network addresses wherein resources have a dynamic address name and have their network address registered with the dynamic address system and configured to receive from the dynamic address system a network address for the identified dynamic address name; and
- a response component configured to send the received network address as the address for the resource identified by the parameter, such that a client receives the network address associated with the resource by sending a single DNS request to the computer system.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the resource is a device connected to the Internet.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the domain name system is a web site.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34 wherein the uniform resource identifier is received after a domain name server directs a resolution request for an address to the domain name system.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the domain name server is a second-level domain name server.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35 wherein the domain name server is a top-level domain name server.

38. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the network address is an IP address.

39. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32 wherein the dynamic address system is an instant messaging system and the dynamic address name identifies a web site that registered its address with the instant messaging system.

40-72. (Cancelled)